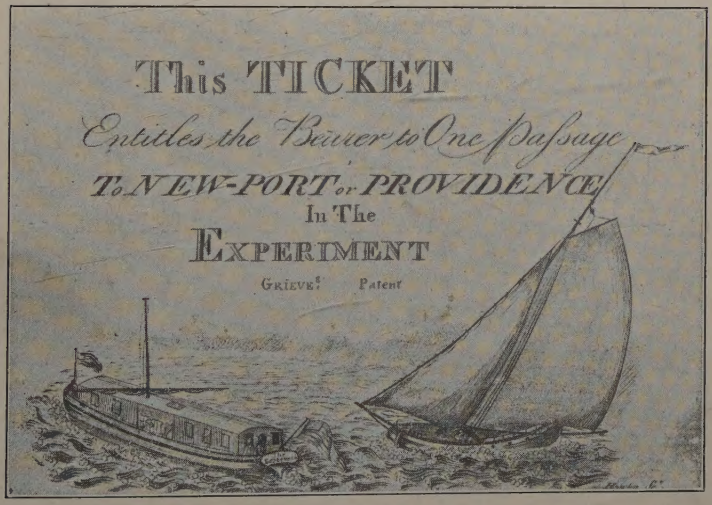
Rhode Island Historical Society Collections

Vol. XIX October, 1926 No. 4



The Grievé patent propeller horseboat *Experiment*, 1809.

From original ticket in the Society's Library

Issued Quarterly

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RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COLLECTIONS

Vol. XIX October, 1926 No. 4

G. ALDER BLUMER, *President* GILBERT A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer*
HOWARD M. CHAPIN, *Librarian*

The Society assumes no responsibility for the statements or the opinions of contributors.

Washington's Visits to Providence

By HOWARD W. PRESTON

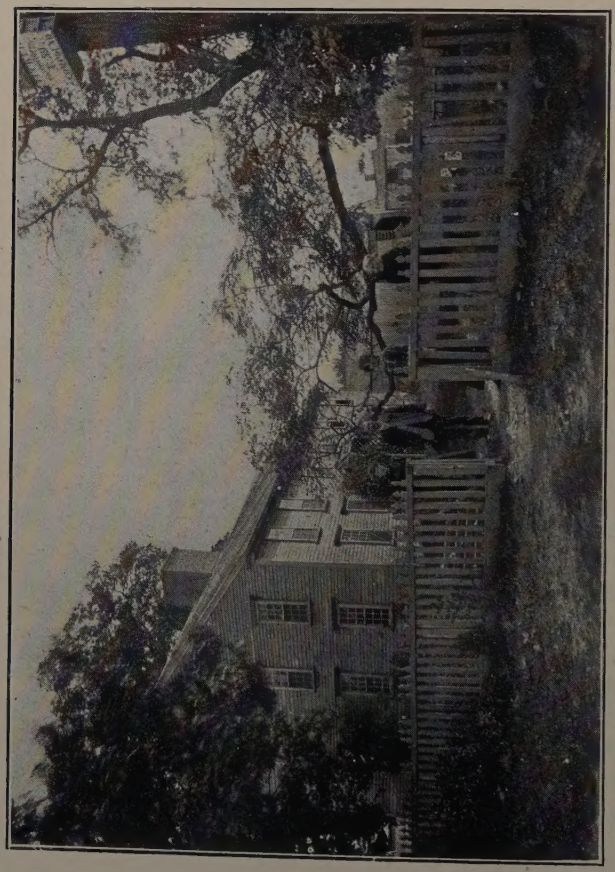
The movement for the preservation of the home of Governor Stephen Hopkins where Washington lodged shows the public interest in the General's presence in Providence.

As some confusion seems to exist regarding Washington's various visits to Providence some of the contemporary accounts of these events are here printed. Undoubtedly other accounts exist in diaries and letters and it is to be hoped that they may be reported to this Society.

Washington is known to have visited Rhode Island four times.

First Visit

In 1756, at the request of his fellow officers, Washington travelled from Alexandria to Boston to obtain from General Shirley, then commander-in-chief of His Majesty's forces in America, a decision regarding the relative rank of royal and colonial officers.



Courtesy of G. S. Standish

Mr. Sayles' Tavern,
Where Washington met his escort April 5, 1776

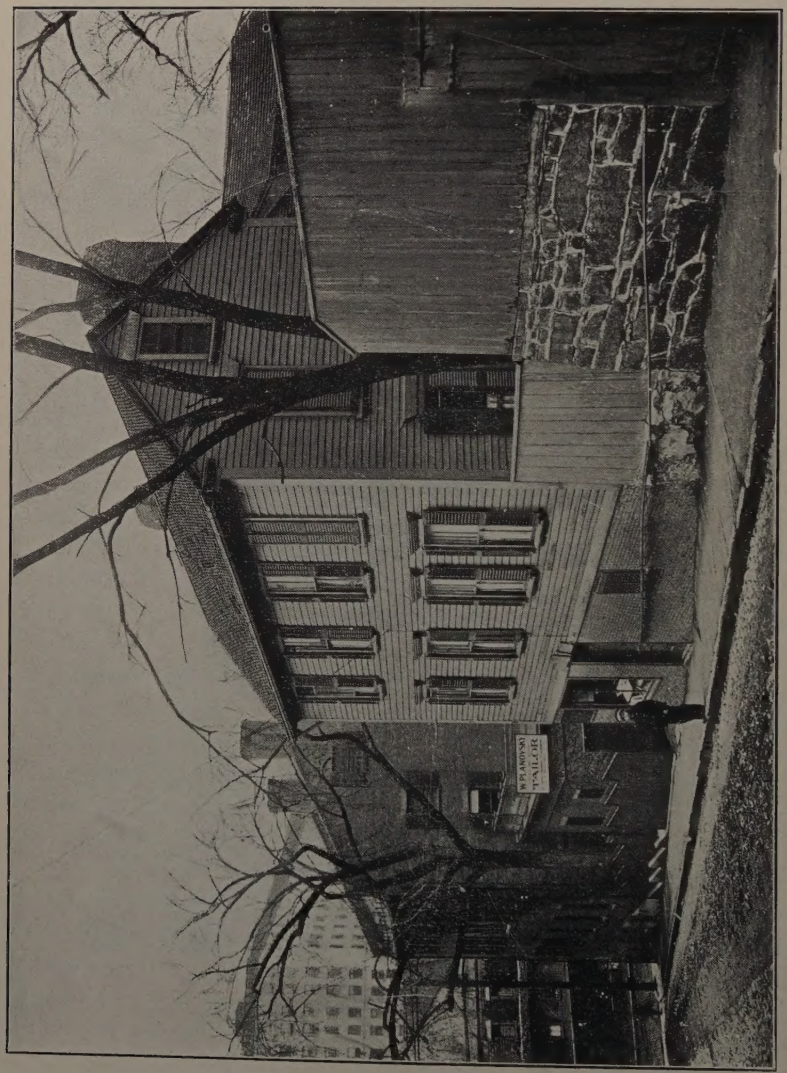
Jared Sparks, in a note in his *Writings of Washington,* (Vol. II, p. 132), says: "In his route he passed through Philadelphia, New York, New London, Newport and Providence." The only item in the Washington manuscripts in the Library of Congress, relating to Washington's presence in Rhode Island, is the entry in his cash account of this journey, (Ford's *Writings of Washington,* Vol. I. p. 232):

"By cash to Mr. Malbones servants.....£4 Rhode
to a Bowle broke..... 4 Island
—
£8 in Virga Cury"

This is without date, but is among the items for February 1756. It shows that Washington was in Newport, Rhode Island, in February 1756, and entertained by Godfrey Malbone, Senior. The *New York Mercury* of February 16, 1756, indicates that Washington reached New York on the 15th, and the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of February 26, under "New York February 23," states "Colonel Washington of and from Virginia but last from Phildelphia left this city for Boston on Friday last," while the *Boston Weekly News Letter* of Thursday, March 4, 1756, records under "Boston, March 4, Friday last came to Town from Virginia the Hon. Col. Washington."

Washington therefore reached New York City, Sunday, February 15, left for Boston on Friday, February 20, and arrived in Boston, Friday, February 27. Mr. Sparks may have possessed some documentary evidence showing Washington's route from New York to Boston, or he may have inferred from Washington's presence at Newport that the General passed through Providence on his way to Boston. Providence was not then an important town, and unless Washington had some reason for visiting it, he would not, on leaving Newport, make the detour to that town, but follow the direct route to Boston, crossing at Bristol Ferry and Miles Bridge avoiding the ferry at Warren, and on through Swansea and Rehoboth, leaving Providence on his left, and avoiding the ferry over the Seekonk.

If Washington returned to New York by the same route, he visited Rhode Island again.



Stephen Hopkins House,
Where Washington lodged April 5 and 6, 1776

Second Visit

When the British army evacuated Boston, March 17, 1776, it was expected that the American forces would march to New York. The Rhode Island General Assembly, at its March session, approved a memorial to General Washington: ". . . Should your Excellency see fit to order any part of the forces from the vicinity of Boston to any of the Southern Colonies we could wish Your Excellency would order their march through this colony by the sea shore, that we might have the chance of their being present should the colony be invaded." (*R. I. Colonial Records,* Vol. VII, p. 471.)

On April 4, 1776, Governor Cooke of Rhode Island wrote to General Washington in Boston: "General Greene having informed me that your Excellency proposed to set out for Providence this day I do myself the honour to acquaint that a house is prepared for you and your lady, for Mr. Curtis and his lady, for General Gates and your whole suite. Were it possible to have made it so agreeable to your Excellency it would have given me the highest pleasure to have entertained you at my house." (*R. I. Hist. Soc. Coll.* Vol. VI, p. 152.)

Theodore Foster, town clerk of Providence for many years, and later a senator from Rhode Island in the first Congress of United States, described this visit in his interleaved almanac:

"Friday April 5th 1776 . . . Information being Received Yesterday that his Excellency General Washington Esq., was on the way to this Town and that he would be in Town today The Company of Cadets commanded by Col. Nightingale and the Company of Light Infantry commanded by Col. Mathewson appeared in their Uniforms and went as far as Mr. Sayles Tavern in North Providence where they waited for his coming up. Col. Hitchcocks & Col. Littles Regiments being upon Mathewson Plain as above mentioned under the Command of Brigadier Genl Nathaniel Greene were Ordered by General Greene to March about one o'clock to meet Genl Washington—They accordingly marched some ways out of Town before they met the General which was at o'clock.—Then Facing about

Courtesy of Providence Magazine

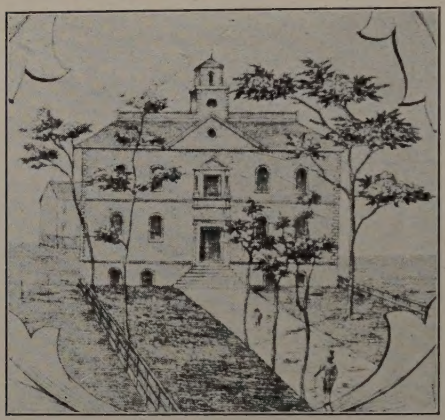
Jabez Bowen House
Market Square, site of Providence Washington Building
Washington lodged here March 13 and 14, 1781

they marched into Town in the following Order First Col. Littles Regiment which was followed by Col. Hitchcocks Regiment Then followed the Company of Light Infantry, Then the Cadets then the Governor of the Colony at whose Right Hand Rode Gen. Washington then followed a Number of Gentlemen on Horseback. In this Order they proceed to the House of the Hon^ble^ Stephen Hopkins where Gen^l^ Washington puts up and is to dine today There was a Great concourse of People Many having come a Number of Miles to have a Sight of his Excellency The Houses through the Street were full of Women the Eminences covered with Men."

The *Providence Gazette* of Saturday, April 13, 1776, briefly says: "Saturday last his Excellency General Washington, Adjutant General Gates and several other Officers belonging to the Continental Army were invited to an elegant entertainment at Hackers Hall, provided by the Gentlemen of the Town, where after Dinner a number of patriotic Toasts were drank. The next Day his Excellency with his Suite set out for New York."

Governor Stephen Hopkins was attending, as a delegate from Rhode Island, the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, so General Washington was entertained by the Governor's stepdaughter, who was also his daughter-in-law, Ruth. There is a tradition that "Ruth had only a few black servants in the house and as her father lived in a very plain way in his small house, the relatives and friends of the family tendered the loan of China, glass and other articles, but the patriot daughter proudly replied, that what was good enough for her father was good enough for General Washington," (Beaman's *Hopkins Family, Essex Inst. Hist. Coll.* Vol. II, p. 118).

It is said that Washington conferred with the Governor and Council. That he met the Governor is established by a letter of the Governor, April 23, 1776, to Washington, in which the Governor says: "When I had the pleasure of seeing you here I laid before you very fully the distressed situation of the colony," (*R. I. Col. Records,* Vol. VII, p. 508).



State House before alterations.
Washington was entertained here March 13, 1781, and August 19, 1790

On this visit Washington arrived from Boston, Friday afternoon, April 5, 1776, and lodged at the house of Stephen Hopkins, then located on South Main Street, but since moved up the hill on Hopkins Street. Saturday, April 6, he was entertained at Hackers Hall (east side of South Main Street between Power and Planet Streets, destroyed by the "Great Fire" in January 1801), and Sunday, April 7, left for Norwich, Conn., where he met Governor Trumbull, Monday, April 8.

Washington writes to the President of Congress from "New York 15 April 1776:" "On the 4th instant I set out from Cambridge, and arrived here on Saturday last. I came through Providence, Norwich, and New London, in order to see and expediate the embarkation of the troops," (Ford's *Writings of Washington,* Vol. XIV, p. 17).

Third Visit

Jeffrey Watson of South Kingstown writes in his diary for 1781: "March 6 General Washington Rode by our House with about Twenty Soldiers for a guard about ten o'clock," (Hazard's *Narrangansett Friends Meeting*, p. 167).

Washington was then on his way from headquarters at New Winsor to Newport to confer with General Rochambeau. He reached Newport by the Conanicut ferries, March 6, and remained there until Tuesday morning, March 13, when, accompanied by several of the French officers, he left for Providence. He travelled by land, passing through Bristol, and dining at Warren at the tavern of Shubael Burr, whose bill, for entertaining General Washington and his suite, £12.12., was ordered paid by the General Assembly, (*R. I. Col. Records*, Vol. IX, p. 378), and arrived at Providence in the evening. Count Dumas of Rochambeau's army accompanied Washington, and thus describes the scene: "The whole population had assembled from the suburbs; we were surrounded by a crowd of children carrying torches, reiterating the acclamations of the citizens; all were eager to approach the person of him whom they called their father, and pressed so closely around us that they hindered us from proceeding. General Washington was much affected, stopped a few moments and pressing my hand said 'We may be beaten by the English; it is the chance of war; but behold an army which they can never conquer,'" (Dumas: *Memoirs*, Vol. I, p. 39). This incident is sometimes said to have occurred six months earlier on Washington's return to headquarters from his first visit to Rochambeau at Hartford, September 21, 1780.

The *Providence Gazette* of March 17, 1781 reports: "Providence March 17. On Tuesday Afternoon arrived here from Newport his Excellency General Washington with his Suite, accompanied by Major General Howe, and several other Gentlemen of the Army. He was met at the Lower Ferry by a Number of Gentlemen and escorted to the House of the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq. On his Excellency's Arrival he was saluted by a Discharge of Thirteen Cannon from the Continental Park of

To be obſerved on the Arrival of the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

The Independent Company of Artillery, commanded by Colonel *Tillinghaſt*.
The Band of Muſic.
The Conſtables of the Town, with their Wands.
The Deputy-Sheriffs.
The Town-Clerk.
The Town-Council.
Committee of Arrangements.
Sheriff.
Marſhal of *Rhode-Iſland* Diſtrict.
Council of the State.
Secretary of the State.
GOVERNOR.
The PRESIDENT of the United States.
His Suite.
GOVERNOR of the State of *New-York*, and *Theodore Foſter*, Eſq;
Secretary *Jefferſon*, and Judge *Blair*.
Mr. *Smith* (of *S. Carolina*) and Mr. *Gilman* (of *New-Hampſhire*) Members of Congreſs.
Repreſentatives of this State in Aſſembly.
Town-Treaſurer.
Juſtices of the Peace.
Corporation of the College.
The Reverend Clergy.
Phyſicians.
Lawyers.
Merchants and Shopkeepers.
Society of Mechanics and Manufacturers.
Revenue Officers.
Officers of the late Army.
Strangers.
Maſters of Veſſels.
Tutors of the College.
The Students.
School-Maſters.
Scholars under their Tuition
Apprentices.
Sailors.
Boys.

N. B. The Signal for the Arrival of the PRESIDENT in the River, will be the Diſcharge of a *Cannon* from *Federal-Hill*, when the Citizens, *&c.* are requeſted to repair to the lower Wharff at the South End of the Town, and form themſelves agreeably to the above Arrangement.

General *Thayer*, Col. *John Whipple*, Deacon *Greene*, Deacon *Nightingale*, Major *Spurr*, Major *Tyler*, Capt. *Paul Allen*, and Mr. *Jacob Whitman*, jun. are appointed, by the Committee of Arrangements, to form and ſuperintend the Proceſſion.

On the PRESIDENT's landing, the Sextons are to ring the Bells of the ſeveral Places of Worſhip.

Providence, Auguſt 17, 1790.

Order of Procession

From R. I. Historical Society Archives

Artillery, from the Shipping in the Harbour and welcomed by the cheerful Countenances of the Inhabitants.

"In the Evening the Town, the Shipping in the Harbour, were beautifully illuminated. On Wednesday an elegant Entertainment was provided at the State-House, at which were present his Excellency, the military Gentlemen who attended him here, a Number of the Inhabitants &c. After dinner Thirteen Toasts were drank, under Discharges of Cannon; and the Evening concluded with a splendid Ball which was honored by the Presences of his Excellency General Washington, Gen. Howe &c &c."

Then follows the address presented to General Washington by Nicholas Cooke and other gentlemen with the General's reply. "Early on Thursday Morning his Excellency with his Suite, sat out for the Westward. He was escorted a few miles from Town by Major General Howe, some other Military Gentlemen and a Number of the Inhabitants." It must have been on this visit that Washington held the conversation with Stephen Hopkins described by Moses Brown, for on Washington's previous visit in 1776 Hopkins was in Philadelphia attending the Continental Congress, and before Washington's next visit, 1790, Hopkins was dead.

Moses Brown wrote: "I was with Stephen Hopkins sitting when General Washington called to see him. I sat some time viewing the simple friendly and pleasant manner in which these two great men met and conversed with each other on various subjects," (Letter to Robert Waln, Jones' *Moses Brown,* p. 35).

Both the address and the entertainment were due to private citizens. The town authorities do not appear to have taken any official recognition of Washington's visit, except for the bill of James Arnold in the town papers for £2. 10s. 8d against the town for candles supplied the "Poor to Eluminate the Town for Genl. Washington," (Providence Town Papers, Vol. VI; 2443).

Deputy Governor Jabez Bowen's house stood on the east

Courtesy of Providence Magazine

Daggett's Tavern,
Where Washington lodged August 18 and 19, 1790

side of Market Square on the site now occupied by the Providence Washington Building.

Fourth Visit

As Rhode Island had not adopted the Constitution when Washington visited New England in 1789, he did not enter the state. Rhode Island ratified the Constitution in May 1790, and on the adjournment of Congress in August 1790 Washington arranged to visit the state. He left New York by packet Sunday, August 15, 1790, accompanied by Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State, George Clinton, Governor of New York, Theodore Foster, Senator from Rhode Island, Judge Blair of the United States Court, William Smith, Member of Congress from South Carolina, whose diary gives a detailed account of the trip, Mr. Gilman, Member of Congress from New Hampshire, and three gentlemen of his official family. He arrived at Newport, Tuesday morning, August 17, and after spending a day and night there, proceeded to Providence up the bay.

Senator Foster, whose interleaved almanac furnished the detailed acount of Washington's visit in 1776, now makes the brief entry: "Wednesday Aug. 18th 1790 I arrived at Providence from New York with the President of the United States."

This time the town of Providence prepared to give Washington an official reception. On August 16, Messrs. Eph. Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Joseph Nightingale and others requested a town meeting the same day at three o'clock "to consider of the most proper Measures to shew the Veneration the Town hath of his Character (Washington) and the Sentiments of Gratitude the Inhabitants entertain for his rescuing America from the Prospect of Slavery and establishing her Liberty upon the broad Basis of Justice and Equity under a Constitution the Admiration and Envy of the civilized World," (Providence Town Papers, 5700). At this town meeting it was voted "to cause the Windows in the Market House to be immediately mended," and that Henry Ward, Dr. Enos Hitchcock, Welcome Arnold, David Howell and Benjamin Bourne be a Committee to draught an address to be presented to the President. A

John Innes Clarke House
Visited by Washington August 19, 1790.
Destroyed by fire.

committee was also appointed to make arrangements for the President's reception "in a Manner Suitable to his high dignity," and "to procure the necessary Powder for the Occasion and in Case the State will not pay for the same this Town will." The inhabitants were recommended "to clean the Streets against their respective Houses and Dwellings and half the Gangways thereto adjoining immediately or before Wednesday noon next," (Providence Town Meeting Records, Vol. VII, p. 176).

At an adjourned meeting the next day the draught of the address reported by the committee was approved, and Daniel Stillwell was ordered "to cause the State House to be handsomely illuminated on Occasion of the Arrival of the President of the United States," (Providence Town Meeting Records, Vol. VII, p. 181).

There are three contemporary accounts of Washington's movements on this visit, the diary of Senator William Smith, who accompanied the party, the *Providence Gazette* of Saturday, August 21, and the *United States Chronicle* of Thursday, August 19, 1790.

Mr. Smith's account, (*Mass. Historical Society Proceedings,* Vol. 51, p. 35, et seq.), is as follows:

—"Wednesday, 18th . . , We had a tedious passage to Providence being seven hours in performing it. The same salute took place as at Newport, but the procession up to the Tavern was more solemn and conducted with much greater formality, having troops and music. The Governor of the State (Arthur Fenner) was so zealous in his respects that he jumped aboard the packet as soon as she got to the wharf to welcome the President to Providence. The President with the Governor of the State on his right hand and Mr. Forster (Foster), a Senator in Congress, from Rhode Island, on his left moved in the front ranks; then followed Governor Clinton, Mr. Jefferson (the Secretary of State for the United States), Mr. Blair (a judge of the Supreme Federal Courts), myself, and the three gentlemen of the Presidents family, viz., Col. Humphreys, Maj. Jackson, and Mr. Nelson—who formed the party—after-

Courtesy of Providence Magazine

John Brown House
Visited by Washington August 19, 1790

wards, followed the principal inhabitants of Providence and some from Newport, and other citizens making a long file, preceded by some troops and music; the doors and windows for the length of a mile, were all crowded with ladies and spectators. When we arrived at the tavern (Daggetts) the President stood at the door and the troops and the procession passed and saluted. In the procession were three negro scrapers making a horrible noise. We then sat down to a family dinner. After tea, just as the President was taking leave to go to bed, he was informed by Col. Peck (Marshal of the District, who sailed with us from New York) that the students of the College had illuminated it, and would be highly flattered at the Presidents going to see it, which he politely agreed to do, though he never goes out at night and it then rained a little, and was a disagreeable night. We made a noctural procession to the College which indeed was worth seeing, being very splendidly illuminated. I slept that night at Mr. Clarkes (John Innes Clarke), a merchant who has lately built a handsome house (Benefit and John Streets) and is a man of property. His house was struck with lightning a few weeks ago, but is repaired: he treated me with much civility, having offered me a bed immediately on my arrival, though I had never seen him before.

"Thursday morning began with heavy rain and cold easterly wind. It cleared at nine o'clock, and then the President, accompanied as before, began a walk which continued until one o'clock and which completely fatigued the company which formed his escort. We walked all around the Town, visited all the apartments of the College, went on the roof to view the beautiful and extensive prospect, walked to a place where a large Indiaman of 900 tons was on the stocks, went on board her, returned to town, stopped and drank wine and punch at Mr. Clarkes, Mr. Browns (John Brown) Governor Fenners (Arthur Fenner) and Gov. Bowens (Deputy Governor Jabez Bowen) and then returned home. As soon as the President was rested, he received the addresses of the Cincinnati, the Rhode Island College, and the Town of Providence, and then went immediately to dinner to the Town Hall (Court House). The dinner con-

sisted of 200 persons, and an immense crowd surrounded the hall. After dinner several toasts were drank; the second was 'The President of the United States.' at which the whole company within and without gave three huzzas and a long clapping of hands. The President then rose and drank the health of all the company; he afterwards gave 'The Town of Providence.'

"Among other toasts, there were given 'The King and National Assembly of France.' Several French gentlemen who sat together then rose and bowed, 'Faithfuness in the collection and economy in the expenditure of the public revenue,' and 'The establishment of public credit and private faith.' Cannon was fired at each toast; at the conclusion of the toasts, the President rose, and the whole company, with a considerable crowd of citizens, walked down to the wharf, where he and his suite embarked for New York."

The *Providence Gazette* of Saturday, August 21, 1790, has the following account:

"On Thursday [should be Wednesday] about Four o'Clock, P. M. arrived from New York, in the Packet Hancock, Capt. Brown, the PRESIDENT of the United States, with his Suite, accompanied by Governor Clinton of New York, Thomas Jefferson, Esq; Secretary of State, Theodore Foster, Esq; one of the Senators from this State;—Judge Blair, Mr. Smith, of South Carolina, and Mr. Gilman, of New Hampshire, Members of Congress.—A Procession was formed agreeable to a previous Arrangement, and the President escorted to his Lodgings at Mr. Daggetts.

"ORDER OF THE PROCESSION [see plate 5]

"The Arrival of Capt. Brown at the Entrance of the Harbour was announced by the Discharge of a Cannon from Federal-Hill, when the Procession was formed at the South End of the Town. On the Presidents Landing he was welcomed by a federal Discharge of Cannon and the Ringing of Bells. The Concourse of People was prodigious. The Procession was conducted with great Decorum and exceeded any thing of the Kind before exhibited in this Town.

"All Ages Classes and Sexes, were full of Sensibility on this Joyful Occasion.—The brilliant Appearance of the Ladies from the Windows was politely noticed by the President, and gave Animation to the Scene.—On the Presidents arrival at Mr Daggetts, another federal Salute took Place, and after

three Cheers the People retired.—On the Evening of the same Day, the President and many others took a Walk on the College Green, to view the illumination of that Edifice which was done by the Students and made a most Splendid Appearance.

"On Thursday, in the Forenoon, the President accompanied by the Gentlemen who came Passengers with him, and many of the Citizens walked through the principal Streets, to view the Town, in the Course of which they were escorted to the College by the Students and by Dr Manning introduced into the College Library and Museum and afterwards went on board a large Indiaman on the Stocks belonging to Messrs Brown and Francis.

"At Three o'Clock an elegant Entertainment was served in the Court-House for upwards of Two Hundred Persons—and the following Toasts were drank under Discharges of Cannon [Then follow the thirteen toasts] . . . At the Close of the above Toasts the President gave 'The Town of Providence' —rose from Table and went immediately on board Capt Browns Packet for Departure. He was attended by a very numerous Procession—which returned to Governor Fenners and after three Cheers dispersed in good Order."

The address presented by the town to Washington and his reply, and the address of the Corporation of Rhode Island College and Washington's reply, appear in this issue of the *Gazette*. The original manuscript of Washington's reply to the town signed by the President, is preserved in the City Archives (Providence Town Papers, 5704).

On Thursday the members of the Cincinnati waited on the President and were presented to him by Col. Olney.

The City Archives contain a few bills for the expenses incurred on this occasion, among them that of John Carter for printing "250 copies of the order of Procession to be observed on receiving the President of the United States," 18 shillings, "To printing 4 Packs of Cards with Tickets for the Entertainment," £1, and the bill of Henry Bowen for warning the townsmen to attend the town meeting and cleaning the court-house, including the services of a drummer and a negro wench and "Rum for Do."

It was perhaps as an aftermath of this visit that at the commencement the next month (September) Rhode Island College conferred on George Washington the degree of LL.D. *in absentia*.

Notes

An account of the horseboat *Experiment*, illustrated on the cover of this issue of the COLLECTONS, will be found in the Narragansett Historical Register, vol. VI, p. 387.

The following persons have been elected to membership in the Society:

Mr. Howard V. Allen
Miss Mildred E. Bassett
Mrs. Grace Coburn Sanctuary
Mr. Edward L. Watson

Mr. Richard Ward Greene Welling has presented to the Society a chair that formerly belonged to Col. Augustus Mumford, who was killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Miss Sarah Bourne Manchester recently gave the Society the manuscript account book of Dr. Aaron Bourne of Bristol. The book covers the period from 1720 to 1751, and contains a large amount of valuable and interesting historical data.

Among the new books of local interest are:

"Block Island, Fact and Fancy," by Thomas B. Fielders.

"The House of Carr. An Historical Sketch of the Carr Family from 1450 to 1926" by W. L. Watson.

"Shall the Ancient Grudge be Starved?" by G. Alder Blumer, M.D. An Address before the Society of the Cincinnati.

"Colonial Rhode Island" by Alice Collins Gleeson.

"Rhode Island Privateers in King George's War, 1739-1748" by Howard M. Chapin.

The *Bulletin* of the Newport Historical Society for July, 1926, contains an account of the First Regiment Rhode Island Detached Militia, 1861.

The seals of the ports of Providence and Newport are illustrated in the Essex Institute Historical *Collections* for July, 1926, and in Louis F. Middlebrook's "Seals of Maritime New England."

Charles M. Leffert's "Uniforms of the Armies in the War of the American Revolution," recently issued by the New York Historical Society, contains illustrations of two Rhode Island uniforms and six pages of notes on Rhode Island uniforms extracted from contemporary newspapers.

The *American Collector* for July contains a note on Samuel Vernon's work as an engraver and printer.

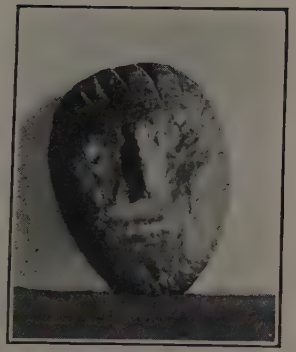
Unusual Indian Implements Found in Rhode Island

By Howard M. Chapin

The October 1924 and the January 1925 Collections contain an illustrated account of the Indian implements more commonly found in Rhode Island with illustrations of a few unusual specimens. It may be of interest to record and illustrate other unusual types.

The stone head found at Warren, the soapstone mask found at Fields Point, and the face carved on the pipe bowl were mentioned in the previous article, but objects bearing carved representations of human beings were rather rare among our local Indians.

Three very interesting stone effigies have been found in Rhode Island and were, I believe, the work of our local Indians. When I first heard of these effigies I did not believe that they were genuine, but after talking with Mr. Romer and Mr. King, I became convinced of the sincerity and honesty of these gentlemen, each of whom found one of the effigies. The soapstone face, about one and a half inches tall, was found near Warwick Pond about twenty years ago by Mr. Samuel W. King, and the soapstone image, two and a half inches tall in its present broken two-thirds condition, but evidently originally a full length image, was found near Warwick Pond by Mr. Carl Romer. The larger seated figure three and a half inches tall, is made of graphite and was found at Neutaconkanut Hill. As these three effigies are made out of stone commonly found in Rhode Island, it seems probably that they were made here, but it is quite possible that they were made in the colonial period by Indians, who had come in contact with European civilization and had seen figures made in Europe. The effigies all have a certain Indian cast of countenance doubtless due to the environment of the artisan, even though he received his general inspiration from European objects.



Face carved in soapstone, 1½ inches tall, found near Warwick Pond, R. I.

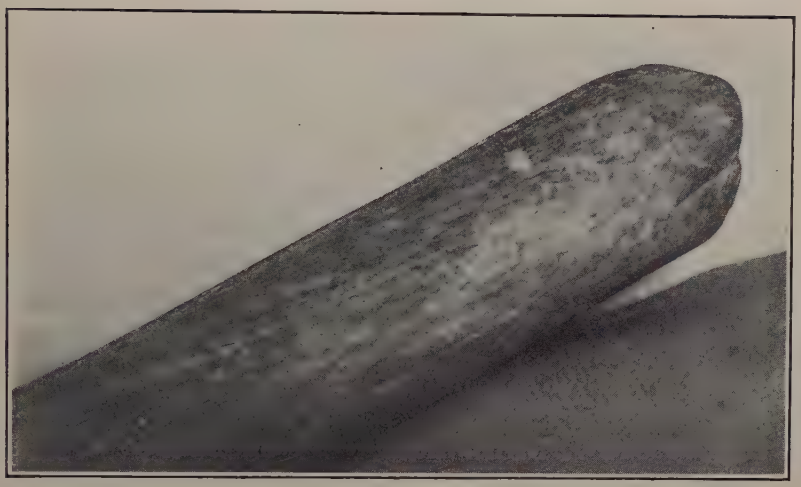
Collection of Samuel W. King

Statue carved in graphite, 3½ inches tall, found at Neutaconkanut Hill, R. I.

Collection of Samuel W. King

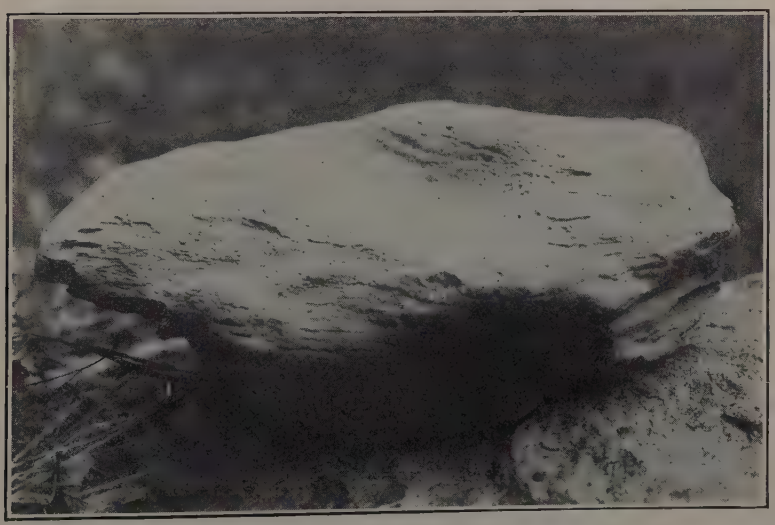
Statue carved in soapstone, 2½ inches tall, found near Warwick Pond, R. I.

Collection of Carl Romer



Turtle-headed pestle, 14½ inches long, found at East Providence, R. I.

Collection of Oscar J. Tyler



Flat mortar found at Oaklawn, R. I.

Collection of Oscar J. Tyler

Two effigy pestles were mentioned in the previous article. A third one, crudely carved at one end to represent a turtle's head, was found at East Providence. This pestle, which is fourteen and a half inches long, is owned by Mr. Oscar J. Tyler.

The subject of stone mortars opens up a question on which much has been written although but little is known. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread, it is said, and so in history and archaeology, we find many statements without supporting proof. That an Indian might use any chance hole or depression found in a rock or stone as a makeshift mortar or anvil can not of course be disputed, but that many of the natural holes and depressions, which are said to have been used as mortars by the Indians, were ever so used, is a matter that can not be substantiated by conclusive evidence.

The so-called flat mortar, found at Oaklawn, is an unusually good specimen of its type. It is a rough flat stone with a shallow concave depression made by rubbing, but whether the rubbing was done by a large pebble and the forces of nature, or by a pestle and the arm of man is a difficult question to solve. If such a stone was used as a mortar, the original depression was doubtless natural, so that the difficulty of solving the problem is increased. Of course time and wear would have long since eliminated all trace of any substances that might have been ground.

The artificial stone mortar or dish offers another problem. Such a stone vessel was illustrated in the previous article, and there is another smaller one, with a much smaller cavity, in the collection of Mr. Daniel Sherman of Wakefield, that was found in that vicinity. The cavity in both cases is unquestionably the work of man, and the outside of the vessel has to some extent been shaped. Such a vessel may have been used for a mortar or for some other purpose.

This brings us to a very interesting problem, the origin and use of the oval stones with the concave top. About twenty years ago Mr. Edgar M. Bacon found near the shore north of Mount Hope an oval stone about sixteen inches tall with a slight concave depression at one end and presented this stone

Mortar found at Woodville, in Hopkinton, R. I.
Property of Judge Oliver Williams

Oval stone mortar (so-called) found at Coventry, R. I.
Collection of Oscar J. Tyler

Bird-shaped pipe, 3½ inches tall, found at Scituate, R. I.

Collection of Peter Cook

Tubular pipe, 2½ inches long, found at Jamestown, R. I.

Collection of Peter Cook

Ornamented pipe, 1¾ inches long, found near Warwick Pond, R. I.

Collection of Samuel W. King

Platform pipe found in Rhode Island.

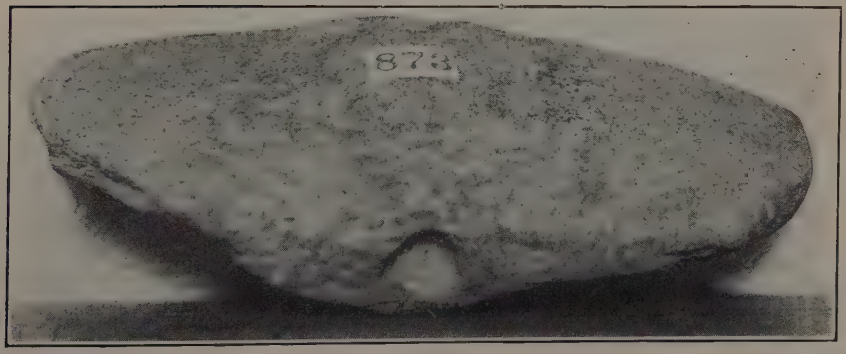
Collection of Mrs. A. B. Bradshaw

Pipe, 1¾ inches tall, found in Newport County, R. I.

Collection of Oscar J. Tyler

Cross-grooved sinker, 3 inches long, found in Rhode Island.

Collection of James H. Richardson



Unfinished banner-stone, 4½ inches long, found at Washington, R. I.

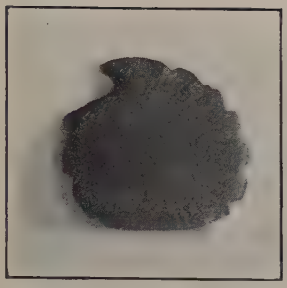
Collection of Oscar J. Tyler

to the Historical Society. It appeared to be a glacial pebble of natural formation although unusually symmetrical, and of no particular note except for the slightly concave flattening at the larger end. According to a local tradition this stone had been used as a mortar by the Indians.

No special importance was attached to this stone until about five years ago, when a stone of similar size, shape and appearance, was found near Wallum Lake and presented to the society by Dr. Harry Lee Barnes. This stone was also said to have been used by the Indians. It had the same sort of a concave depression at the larger end, only somewhat deeper than in the case of the Bristol stone.

A stone, similar in size, shape and appearance, was recently found at Coventry by Mr. Oscar Tyler. This stone has a much deeper cavity at the larger end and the cavity seems at first glance to have been the work of man. If this cavity is the result of intentional design, it arouses the suspicion that the depressions in the other stones may also have been the work of human beings, and if so, presumably Indians. On the other hand these stones are remarkably similar to the oval stones with concave pebble-worn cavities, that are preserved at Lucerne, Switzerland. As all of these stones are top-heavy and have a spherical base, it seemed at first as though they could not have been used as mortars on account of their instability, but on the other hand if they were set in soft earth they would stand quite firmly.

A fourth stone of similar size, with an artificial cavity in its top, was located at Woodville in Hopkinton, R. I. This stone, however, has a rather rough and irregular exterior and does not present the smooth finished appearance of the oval stones. The pipes found in Rhode Island are of many designs. The pipe, three inches tall made of polished greenish stone carved in the shape of a bird, perhaps intended for a crow, was plowed up in Scituate, R. I. It is a beautiful piece of work and in a very good state of preservation. A banner-stone also found in Scituate is of somewhat similar stone, and both pieces may have been made elsewhere and brought here by trade. The tubular

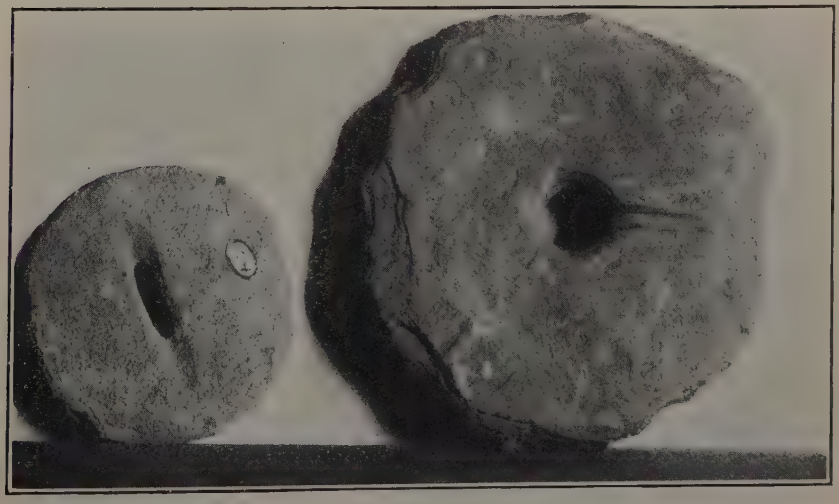


Circular trinket found at Olneyville, R. I. Actual size.

Collection of Earl Romer

Trinket or pendant, 1½ inches tall, found at Carbuncle Hill, Coventry, R.I.

Collection of Oscar J. Tyler

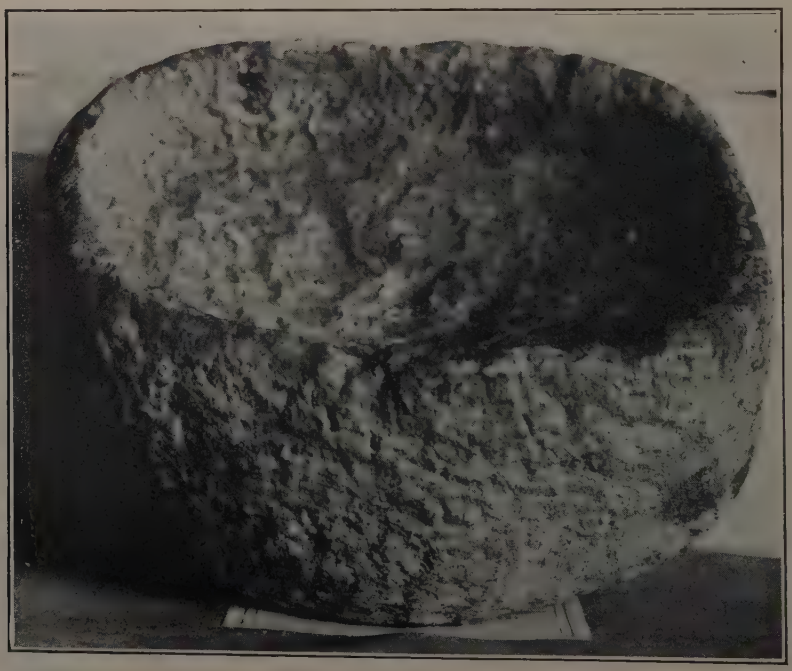


Pierced stones or "gorgets," 2 inches and 3½ inches in diameter, found at Elmwood, R. I.

Collection of Samuel W. King

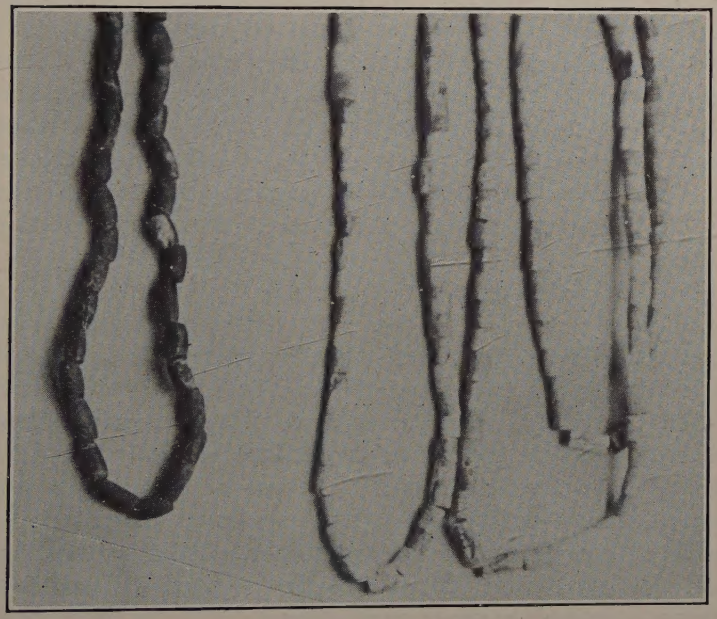
One-handled bowl, 8 inches long, found at Sand Pond, Warwick, R. I.

Collection of Samuel W. King



Unfinished bowl, 8½ inches long, found at Norwood, R. I.

Collection of Samuel W. King



Metal beads and shell wampum found at Burrs Hill, Warren, R. I.

Collection of Peter Cook

pipe found at Jamestown is the only specimen of tubular pipe that I have heard of being found in Rhode Island. Another very unusual pipe is the black bowl pipe found at Newport. A soapstone pipe found near Warwick Pond has incised ornamental lines in diamond shaped patterns, a design which may have been due to contact with European civilization. It is probably of local workmanship. A very fine specimen of platform pipe was found in Rhode Island, a fragment of a platform pipe was found near Red Bridge, Providence, and unfinished blanks for platform pipes were found at Wickford and Warwick. An unfinished pipe stem, which might have been part of a pipe stem similar to the one on the animal effigy pipe found at Warren, was found at East Providence. The prevalence of pipe blanks in Rhode Island proves conclusively that our local Indians manufactured pipes, and it is quite possible that stone for this purpose was occasionally brought from a considerable distance.

An unfinished "banner stone" found at Coventry would seem to indicate that our local Indians made these problematic pieces. Some consider that they were made by prehistoric tribes that preceded the Indians, who were found here by the whitemen.

Two thin pierced stones are shown. These are particularly interesting in that they show depressions evidently made by rubbing sinew back and forth. The use of such stones still remains an unsolved problem. Small stones of unusual shape, showing traces of human workmanship, are called trinkets for want of a better name. Everyone is free to make his own conjectures as regard the use of such objects.

Soapstone dishes are of many types and would make an interesting study in themselves. Occasionally they are almost rectangular in shape, sometimes have only one handle, and vary from being very shallow to having a depth of several inches.

The Indians made beads out of sheet copper by rolling bits of copper into the required shape. These beads had a general resemblance to Indian wampum as regards size and shape.